

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 4-20 are pending in the present application.

As the record clearly bears out, the above claim amendment accurately reflects the scope of the inventive composition. Based on the description on pages 4-12, which are further supported by the Examples on pages 12-23, it is clear that at least one of glutamine and glutamic acid must be present in the composition for livestock feed. The importance of these components was clearly set forth in Applicants' Amendment and Request for Reconsideration filed on December 23, 2002. On this basis, the claims (requiring at least two of a nucleic acid, glutamine and glutamic acid) were found to be free of the art of record.

Therefore, it is clear that the Office found the claimed composition for livestock feed in which at least two of a nucleic acid, glutamine and glutamic acid are present, to be allowable. However, the Office objected to the use of "nucleic acid", which was replaced with "a nucleic acid, a nucleotide, and a nucleoside" in the Amendment and Request for Reconsideration filed on June 20, 2003. This amendment broadened the scope of the claim to permissibly exclude the required glutamine and/or glutamic acid.

Applicants note that this error is obvious, as well as the solution. Moreover, Applicants believe that the proposed amendment of Claim 1 would place this claim in a condition that accurately reflects the Office's reason for allowance and accurately reflects the present invention. Applicants request that this amendment be entered and subsequently allowed.

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Further to the Notice of Allowance mailed July 1, 2003

Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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